

Message

From: Yeh, Alice [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D302128F8E884F9C901E32CE76B609C8-YEH, ALICE]
Sent: 10/7/2022 5:48:08 PM
To: Zachos, George [Zachos.George@epa.gov]
CC: Kandil, Shereen [Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov]; Haklar, James [Haklar.James@epa.gov]; Sivak, Michael [Sivak.Michael@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Superfund Site Clarification requested

I was actually afraid it was too long, so thanks your take on it – you have a lot more experience communicating with stakeholders than I do! (And this was a team effort – lots of PHNBRB & ORC eyes looked at it!)

From: Zachos, George <Zachos.George@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 1:46 PM
To: Yeh, Alice <Yeh.Alice@epa.gov>
Cc: Kandil, Shereen <Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov>; Haklar, James <Haklar.James@epa.gov>; Sivak, Michael <Sivak.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: Superfund Site Clarification requested

Hi Alice,

Great, detail response! This is the type of response that stakeholders should receive that provide, clear simple to understand answers to alleviate their concerns.

Thank you!

Have a nice safe day,
George

George H. Zachos
Superfund Decision Facilitator & Regional Public Liaison
Office of the Director
Superfund and Emergency Management Division

From: Yeh, Alice <Yeh.Alice@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 4:53 PM
To: jennabarone92@gmail.com
Cc: Zachos, George <Zachos.George@epa.gov>; Kandil, Shereen <Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov>; Haklar, James <Haklar.James@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Superfund Site Clarification requested

Hello,

Shereen Kandil asked me to respond to your email message. I am the EPA project manager for the cleanup of the lower 8.3 miles of the Lower Passaic River, which is part of the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site.

In 2016, EPA selected a cleanup plan for that part of the river, which includes capping the bottom of the river to isolate the contaminated sediments from the rest of the river system. Before the cap can be installed, the cleanup plan calls for some dredging so that the cap does not make the flooding worse. Sediment dredged from the river will be transported to a sediment processing facility to be squeezed dry, after which the sediment will be shipped to permitted disposal

facilities elsewhere in the U.S and Canada. The cleanup plan is currently in the design phase, which means that the details of how to implement the cleanup are being worked out. The design is expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

The draft design documents that EPA has been reviewing anticipate that a sediment processing facility will be located on property in Newark next to the sewage treatment plant owned by the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC). If that plan comes about, most of the sediments dredged out of the river would go to that property for processing. However, some sediment near the PSE&G Harrison property is contaminated with a tar-like oily product and will need to be handled differently from the sediment in the rest of the lower 8.3 miles. That sediment may be sent to the PSE&G Harrison property where, in addition to having water removed, there would be portland cement added to stabilize it before it is shipped to permitted disposal facilities elsewhere in the U.S and Canada. Since PSE&G's property may be used, the draft design documents include extensive air quality monitoring and controls, as well as odor and noise monitoring and controls around the property to ensure that Superfund operations at the property do not result in releases that may be harmful to human health and safety.

The Occidental Chemical Corporation is designing the remedy for the lower 8.3 miles of the river under EPA oversight and has been in discussions with PSE&G regarding the use of the company's Harrison property to perform the work described above. However, no agreements have been reached, so the concept of using the PSE&G Harrison property is just a proposal at this time. If it appears that PSE&G's property will be used for sediment processing, EPA will perform extensive outreach to ensure that communities are aware and informed of the cleanup actions that are planned for the lower 8.3 miles of the river.

I am attaching a fact sheet with frequently asked questions about sediment processing facilities that may be part of the cleanup of the lower 8.3 miles of the Passaic River.

Please let me know if you have any more questions (212-637-4427).

From: Jenna Barone <jennabarone92@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 9:25 PM

To: Kandil, Shereen <Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov>; Naranjo, Eugenia <Naranjo.Eugenia@epa.gov>; zachos.george@epa.com

Subject: Superfund Site Clarification requested

Good Evening,

I am reaching out in hopes to gain some clarity about rumors that are circulating in my town (ahead of our upcoming election) As a Harrison, NJ resident who will be exercising my right to vote I need to do my due diligence on a campaign that is being blasted all over social media, local publications, and television. The petition created states that the PSEG site located in Harrison, NJ will be used as a sludge processing site and that it will be EXTREMELY harmful to the residents living here

The petition states the following:

"We the undersigned Petition EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan and Governor Phil Murphy to NOT use the PSE&G property located at South Frank E. Rodgers Blvd in Harrison, NJ as a Sediment (Sludge) Processing Facility from the dredging of Passaic River contaminated toxic and cancer-causing soil. The sludge contains by-products of producing Agent Orange at the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site in Newark NJ. Over Twenty Years Ago, Mayor Raymond J. McDonough and Peter Higgins set forth a plan to redevelop contaminated industrial properties into residential properties. Their vision has almost been fulfilled. Contaminated soils should not be dumped in what is now a residential neighborhood in Harrison NJ."

Can you please confirm if this is actually going to happen and if so if we as residents should be concerned? If not, what processes and procedures will be exercised to ensure the residents are not harmed?

I truly appreciate your time as I know you have a lot on your plate especially with NJ being the one of the states with the most superfund sites.

Any insight, confirmation, or clarification is greatly appreciated!

The petition can be found at this link: <https://www.change.org/p/petition-to-stop-dumping-of-sludge-for-dewatering-in-harrison-nj?redirect=false>

My best,

Jenna

Jenna M. Barone

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